

The attached document is an excerpt from the transcription of an oral interview conducted by CIA historian Jack Pfeiffer with James A. Cunningham on October 11, 1977. Mr. Cunningham was Director of Administration of DPD (Development Projects Division) in the Bay of Pigs time period.

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investigation, and on the one that went to the Taylor Committee, it shows Herrera taking off at 0700Z by himself, then later on, in 1968 I guess it was, Buck Persons wrote this book on the Bay of Pigs and Gar Thorsrud went through it, and he modified that Mission Summary...he shows...and Beerli also on that first one that/ ~~Bixx~~ did, he showed Doug Price as co-pilot with Connie Seigrist. Then, when the thing was revised by Thorsrud, he shows Price taking off at the same time. Let's see, it shows Herrera going out at 0700Z, and then it shows Price going out at 0900Z. There were three of them that took off later, and Herrera was out there floating around by himself, presumably, but the cable traffic indicates that Price was probably in the air at the same time as Herrera, and I wondered if you had any information on that, because it just seemed rather strange that he would go off and away by himself.

JAC

No, you see Beerli's summary was done largely by Gaines, who in turn was getting his input from Gar, so go back to the original sin on this thing. (That's your buzz.)

JBP

We just talk along here for another couple of minutes. O.K. Now, in terms of this business of aircraft being lost, do you recall the one that had been picked up at Boca Chica, it was on a D-2 strike, and it x went into Boca Chica for emergency repairs, and then after the D-Day air strike, another couple landed up there at Boca Chicaa, and the plane

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGE
RELEASE IN FULL 1997

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that had been on the D-2 strike was repaired and the guys took off for Nicaragua and they never reported in, and then they found them in November or something like that, they had crashed in the jungle. The wife of one of those victims asked for the return of the remains of her husband. Were you involved in that?

JAC No.

JBP Do you know what ever happened, did they ever return the remains, or...

JAC I really don't know the answer to that.

JBP That was quite a problem, incidentally, trying to find out who the two men were on that crew, because the report that came up from Gar, ^{simply} listed somebody named 'Nabel'.

JAC Ha, ha. Ha ha.

JBP Any way, getting away from that.

JAC No, It got so confusing, once the strike started that those of us in the Washington area, were just the tail following the dog around, because we didn't know what the hell Gar was up to half the time, because he was too god-damned busy to send us any meaningful information, except as it related to available fuel, or running out of ammunition...or needed something from us...we didn't hear from him on the actual selection of crews, or anything like that.

JBP When it came time to do the briefing down at Puerto Cabezas for the D-2 air strike, can you tell me what the